

Comparison of Medication Management for People with Asthma (MMA) and Use of Appropriate Medications  
for Asthma (ASM)  
July 29, 2014

**Background:** At the Chronic Illness Workgroup Meeting on July 17, 2014, the workgroup members expressed an interest in further understanding the differences between two asthma measures of interest: Medication Management for People with Asthma (MMA) and Use of Appropriate Medications for Asthma (ASM). A table comparing the two measures is included below.

	Medication Management for People with Asthma (MMA)	Use of Appropriate Medications for Asthma (ASM)
<b>Purpose of the Measure</b>	Assesses patient adherence to controller medications and how long they stay on the medication during their treatment period.	Assesses how often providers prescribe controller medications (as opposed to no medications or rescue medications) to their patients with persistent asthma.
<b>NQF #</b>	1799	0036
<b>Steward</b>	NCQA (HEDIS)	NCQA (HEDIS)
<b>Data Source</b>	Claims	Claims
<b>Age Range</b>	5-64	5-64
<b>Description</b>	<p>The percentage of patients 5-64 years of age during the measurement year who were identified as having persistent asthma and were dispensed appropriate medications that they remained on during the treatment period. Two rates are reported:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The percentage of patients who remained on an asthma controller medication for at least 50% of their treatment period.</li> <li>2. The percentage of patients who remained on an asthma controller medication for at least 75% of their treatment period.</li> </ol>	Percentage of patients 5-64 years of age who were identified as having persistent asthma and were appropriately prescribed medication during the measurement period.
<b>Numerator</b>	<p>Rate 1: The number of members who achieved a proportion of days covered of at least 50% for their asthma controller medications during the measurement year. In other words, the number of days that a member is covered by at least one asthma controller medication prescription, divided by the number of days in the treatment period must be at least 50%.</p> <p>Rate 2: The number of members who achieved a proportion of days covered of at least 75% for their asthma controller medications during the measurement year. In other words, the number of days that a member is covered by at least one asthma controller medication prescription, divided by the number of days in the treatment period must be at least 75%.</p>	Dispensed at least one prescription for an asthma controller medication during the measurement year.